

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 ISO-00 NIC-01 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05

L-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAJ-01 AID-05 COME-00 EB-04 FRB-01 TRSE-00

XMB-02 OPIC-06 CIEP-01 LAB-01 SIL-01 OMB-01 FEAE-00

INT-05 AGR-05 STR-01 IO-04 DRC-01 /100 W

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R 160801Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 868

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMCONSUL ZAGREB

DOD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BELGRADE 5113

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, ETRD, MASS, PFOR, YO

SUBJ: PREMIER BIJEDIC VISIT TO BAGHDAD

REF: BELGRADE 2926, 805

SUMMARY: IN THREE-DAY VISIT TO BAGHDAD, GOY DELEGATION LED BY PREMIER BIJEDIC DISCUSSED POSSIBILITIES FOR FURTHER ECONOMIC COOPERATION - PARTICULARLY EXCHANGE OF IRAQ OIL FOR YUGOSLAV SERVICES - AND REVIEWED INTERNATIONAL ISSUES, INCLUDING IRAN-IRAQ DISPUTE. PRESENCE OF ASSISTANT DEFENSE SECRETARY ON DELEGATION INDICATES MILITARY SALES MAY HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED. NO SPECIFIC RESULTS ANNOUNCED. END SUMMARY

1. TANJUG OF OCTOBER 15 HAS PUBLISHED COMMUNIQUE ON VISIT TO BAGHDAD OCTOBER 11 TO 14 OF GOY DELEGATION LED BY PREMIER BIJEDIC, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND INCLUDING FEC MEMBERS ANDOV AND BERBEROVIC, ASSISTANT SECRETARY

OF DEFENSE VUJATOVIC, AND VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMITTEE FOR AGRICULTURE TURUDIIA.

2. VISIT HOSTED BY VICE PRESIDENT SADDAM HUSSEIN.

3. IN COMPREHENSIVE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS, DELEGATIONS GAVE SPECIAL ATTENTION TO BILATERAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION, FOUND "PRACTICALLY NO OBSTACLES" TO SUCH COOPERATION, AND NOTED PROGRESS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF FIVE YEAR AGREEMENT SIGNED DURING HUSSEIN'S JUNE VISIT TO BELGRADE. UNSPECIFIED NEW INITIATIVES LAUNCHED. PARTICULARLY GOOD POSSIBILITIES REPORTEDLY EXIST IN AREAS OF OIL, PETROCHEMICALS, CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS, CREDIT AND MONETARY COOPERATION.

4. ON POLITICAL SIDE, COMMUNIQUE REPORTED IDENTITY OF VIEWS ON MIDDLE EAST, CYPRUS, NON-ALIGNED COOPERATION AND REMOVAL OF FOREIGN BASES FROM PERSIAN GULF AND INDIAN OCEAN. AS TO IRAQ-IRAN DISPUTE, ON OTHER HAND, IRAQIS "ACQUAINTED" YUGOSLAVS WITH PROBLEM AND YUGOSLAVS MERELY "ACKNOWLEDGED" IRAQI STAND AND URGED SETTLEMENT OF PROBLEM PEACEFULLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH UN CHARTER.

5. IN ARRIVAL STATEMENT BACK IN BELGRADE, BIJEDIC STRESSED USEFULNESS OF ECONOMIC DISCUSSIONS, PARTICULARLY IN RESPECT TO ASSURING FUTURE OIL SUPPLIES FOR YUGOSLAVIA.

6. COMMENT: PRIMARY PURPOSE OF VISIT APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN TO GIVE IMPETUS TO TRANSLATION OF BASIC PRINCIPLES ON COOPERATION CONTAINED IN JUNE 1974 LONG-TERM AGREEMENT INTO SPECIFIC INDIVIDUAL ARRANGEMENTS. YUGOSLAVS WOULD LIKE 2 TO 2-1/2 MILLION TONS OF OIL PER YEAR FROM IRAQ, AND TO PAY FOR IT IN CONSTRUCTION SERVICES FOR POWER PLANTS, AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS, ROADS, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, HARBORS, ETC., AND - QUITE POSSIBLY - IN MILITARY GOODS AND SERVICES. PRIOR TO BIJEDIC VISIT, PUBLICATIONS HERE WROTE ENTHUSIASTICALLY ABOUT PROSPECT FOR "TWO OR THREE BILLION DOLLARS' WORTH OF NEW BUSINESS FOR YUGOSLAV ENTERPRISES IN IRAQ" BUT NO SPECIFIC NEW PROJECTS ANNOUNCED IN LAST SEVERAL MONTHS. OBSTACLES GOY FACES AMONG YUGOSLAV CONSTRUCTION ENTERPRISES THEMSELVES ILLUSTRATED BY COMMENT OF DIRECTOR OF ONE OF LARGEST OF THESE TO US LAST WEEK, THAT THERE ARE TWO COUNTRIES IN WHICH FIRM DOES NOT WISH TO WORK AGAIN - IRAQ AND LIBYA. HE CITED DIFFICULTIES WITH PAYMENT, OPERATIONS, AND RELATIONS WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES. IMPORTANT REASON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WHY BIJEDIC RELUCTANT TO BECOME INVOLVED IN IRAQ-IRAN DISPUTE IS DESIRE - SHARED BY MOST ENTERPRISES - TO DEVELOP IRANIAN MARKET. REFERENCE TO CREDITS SUGGESTS YUGOSLAVS MAY BE IN LINE FOR IRAQI LOAN, FOLLOWING RECENT FINANCING ARRANGEMENT WITH KUWAIT (BELGRADE 3631).
TOON

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